14. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the IL-17R protein is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a protein comprising amino acids 1 through 322 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a protein comprising amino acids 1 through 320 of SEQ ID NO:4;
- (c) a protein having an amino acid sequence that is at least about 70% identical to the amino acid sequences of the proteins of (a) or (b) as determined using the GAP computer program at default parameters, and that binds IL-17; and
 - (d) fragments of the proteins of (a), (b) or (c) that bind IL-17.

REMARKS

Following the amendments, claims 13 and 14 are currently pending in the application, with claim 13 being in independent form. Support for the claimed subject matter may be found, for example, in the specification at page 2, lines 5-12, as well as throughout the specification as originally filed.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX NON FEE, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

Date: Jun. 28, 2001

Signed

Manci Kertson